



AGENDA

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

November 5, 2007

Arkansas Department of Education

Auditorium, Arkansas Department of Education

9:00 AM

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Consent Agenda

C-1 Minutes - October 8, 2007

Presenter: Diane Tatum

C-2 Newly Employed, Promotions and Separations

The applicant data from this information is used to compile the Applicant Flow Chart forms for the Affirmative Action Report, which demonstrates the composition of applicants through the selecting, hiring, promoting and terminating process.

Presenter: Ms. Beverly Williams Ms. Clemetta Hood

C-3 Commitment to Principles of Desegregation Settlement Agreement: Report on the Execution of the Implementation Plan

*By the Court Order of December 1, 1993, the Department of Education is required to file a monthly Project Management Tool (PMT) to the court and the parties to assure its commitment to the Desegregation Plan. This report describes the progress the ADE has made since March 15, 1994, in complying with the provisions of the Implementation Plan (Plan) and itemizes the ADE's progress against the timelines presented in the Plan. Process * In November, the report emphasizes the following: 1. Summary of the PMT for October.*

Presenter: Dr. Charity Smith/Willie Morris

C-4 Reports on Waivers to School Districts for Teachers Teaching Out of Area for Longer than Thirty (30) Consecutive Days, Act 1623 of 2001.

Act 1623 of 2001 requires local school districts to secure a waiver when classrooms are staffed with unlicensed teachers for longer than 30 days. Waiver requests were received from 110 school districts covering a total of 313 positions. None of these requests were from a district in academic distress. These requests have been reviewed, either approved or denied by Department Staff and are consistent with program guidelines.

Presenter: Beverly Williams, Assistant Commissioner for Human Resources/Licensure

C-5 Request for Approval of Stipulated Agreement - Frances Richardson

Frances Richardson currently holds a standard five-year license valid until December 31, 2008. The Arkansas Department of Education recommends that the State Board of Education permanently revoke the certified teaching license of Ms. Richardson. This recommendation is based upon the findings of an ADE investigation into alleged testing improprieties in the Jonesboro School District. Specifically, the Department alleges that Ms. Richardson violated the security and confidentiality of the Spring 2006 Benchmark Exam by knowingly falsifying information in a student portfolio assessment. Such action is prohibited by Ark. Code Ann. 6-15-438 and the Arkansas Department of Education Rules and Regulations Governing the Arkansas Comprehensive Testing, Assessment and Accountability Program (ACTAAP) 5.07.3.7 and is cause for licensure action pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. 6-17-410(e)(2)(E). Ms. Richardson was notified of the recommendation of revocation of her certified teacher's license and of her right to a hearing before the State Board of Education on November 5, 2007. Ms. Richardson has agreed to accept the recommended revocation effective immediately following the last day of the 2007-2008 school year without a hearing; during the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year, Ms. Richardson shall not participate in the administration of any standardized test assessment. Thus, the Arkansas Department of Education recommends that the teacher's license of Ms. Frances Richardson be permanently revoked effective immediately following the last day of the 2007-2008 school year.

Presenter: Scott Smith/Tripp Walter

C-6 Request for Approval of Stipulated Agreement - Robin Roark

Mr. Roark is currently enrolled in the Non-Traditional Licensure Program and is employed as an English instructor at North Little Rock High School. Review of Mr. Roark's criminal background check revealed a conviction of Felony Battery 1st Degree on October 18, 2000. This is a disqualifying offense for a certified teacher's license pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. 6-17-410(c)(4). On September 18, 2007, Mr. Roark was notified of the denial of his application for a certified teacher's license. On September 27, 2007, Mr. Roark submitted a request for a waiver pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. 6-17-410(d).

Mr. Roark has no other convictions.

Based on the afore-mentioned circumstances, the Arkansas Department of Education recommends that Mr. Roark be placed on probationary status for a period of two (2) years from the date of this hearing during which time he must not be convicted of, or charged resulting in a conviction with, any disqualifying offense pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. 6-17-410.

Presenter: Scott Smith/Tripp Walter

Action Agenda

A-1 Request for Approval of 2007-2008 Arkansas Better Chance Grants - Round #4A

Pursuant to the Rules and Regulations Governing the Arkansas Better Chance Program, DCC-ECE requests approval of these grants for the 2007-2008 ABC program.

Presenter: Sherrill Archer, DCC-ECE Program Specialist

A-2 Request for Approval of the Adaptations to the Revised Social Studies Framework

Adaptations to the Grade 7 and 8 Revised Social Studies Framework approved by the State Board of Education on February 12, 2007, are submitted for review and approval. These adaptations will ensure that school districts have the option to teach the required semester of Arkansas History at Grades 7 or 8, as well as at Grades 9, 10, 11, or 12, as required by law. These adaptations were prepared by a committee consisting of social studies educators and historians.

Presenter: Dr. Gayle Potter, Associate Director, Curriculum, Assessment, and Research

A-3

Review of Accredited-Probationary Status of West Fork High School for Failing to Meet all Standards for Accreditation for Two (2) Consecutive Years

West Fork High School was identified as accredited-probationary by ADE on May 15, 2007, and on May 15, 2006. West Fork High School did not have students enrolled in the required 38 units for the 2006-2007 school year and had a teacher with an expired ALP during the 2005-2006 school year.

ADE recommends that SBE approve action initiated by the West Fork School District under AR Code 6-15-207(c)(8) and require the district to issue written certification that the violations have been corrected and that no other violations of Standards exists by February 1, 2008. An On-campus Standards Review (OSR) will be conducted of the West Fork School District prior to May 15, 2008 to verify the status. ADE is then required to report to SBE as to the extent the district has corrected the violations and as such is subject to AR Code 6-15-206(b)(1).

Presenter: *M. Annette Barnes, School Improvement Coordinator Frank Wimer, Standards Assurance Unit Leader*

A-4

Consideration of Final Approval: Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts

A public hearing was held on September 12, 2007, at the Arkansas Department of Education Auditorium. Other than ADE personnel, no one was present to comment. Several emails were received commenting on the intent of Act 1015 of 2007. Calls and e-mails were received that commented the definition for "Core Academic Courses" did not agree with the definition for "Core Academic Subject Areas" found in the ADE Rules Governing "Highly Qualified" Teachers Pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. That definition is used in these Standards for Accreditation Rules at 3.02.

The Arkansas Department of Education recommends that the State Board of Education approve the proposed changes to the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts.

Presenter: *M. Annette Barnes, School Improvement Coordinator Frank Wimer, Standards Assurance Unit Leader*

A-5

Consieration for Final Approval: Rules Governing the Use of Net Athletic Gate Receipts by Public School Districts

At the September meeting, the State Board approved this rule for public comment. Two hearings were held. Recommendations for changes have been implemented in the final revised rule. The Department recommends final approval of this rule.

Presenter: *Dr. Bobbie Davis*

A-6

Consideration for Final Approval: Proposed Rules Governing Arkansas Public Charter Schools, Open Enrollment Application and Lease Agreement

On July 9, 2007 the State Board approved for public comment Proposed Rules Governing Public Charter Schools. On August 8, 2007, a public hearing was held at the Department. Five people attended the public hearing, two of which were ADE staff. Oral and written comments were presented at the public hearing. On August 13, 2007, the State Board approved for public comment New Charter Applications, Renewal Applications and Facilities Lease Agreement. On September 11, 2007, a second public hearing was held at the Department. Five people attended the public hearing, three of which were ADE staff. No one wished to provide additional oral or written comments concerning the Rules. Comments received during the public hearings were reviewed. As a result of the review, the Charter School Unit presents these recommendations to the State Board.

The Arkansas Department of Education recommends that the State Board of Education approve the proposed changes

to the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Public Charter Schools.

Presenter: Dr. Mary Ann D. Brown

A-7

Hearing of Open Enrollment Charter Application Appeal and ADE Review: Perkins Academy of Fine Arts - Helena-West Helena School District

Perkins Academy of Fine Arts is a proposed open-enrollment public charter school to be located within the Helena-West Helena School District in Helena, Arkansas. The sponsoring entity on the letter of intent and application is Fair Chance Community Development. Grades K-4 will be served with a maximum enrollment of 150 students.

The proposed site for the school is 805 Cherry Street, Helena, Arkansas.

Affected districts for this proposed public charter school include Helena-West Helena, Marvell, Barton-Lexa and KIPP Delta. The Helena-West Helena School District is opposed to the opening of Perkins Academy of Fine Arts. Since the time of the ADE's letter to the applicant advising it of the date and time of the State Board meeting, the applicant has given notice of appeal in request of a hearing regarding this matter.

Staff members from several units of the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) reviewed the application for the Perkins Academy of Fine Arts. Evaluation concerns were then mailed to the applicant for response. The applicant responded to the ADE evaluation in writing. Copies of the letter of intent, the application, documentation by the districts, the ADE evaluation and the written response by the applicant have been included for review by the Board.

The applicant is requesting to be granted an Open-Enrollment Charter from the State Board of Education.

Presenter: Dr. Mary Ann D. Brown

A-8

Hearing of Open Enrollment Charter Application Appeal and ADE Review: School of Excellence – DeWitt School District

School of Excellence is a proposed open-enrollment public charter school to be located within the DeWitt School District in Humphrey, Arkansas. The sponsoring entity on the letter of intent and application is Friends of Humphrey School. Grades 6-12 will be served with a maximum enrollment of 160 students.

The proposed site for the school is 703 North Division, Humphrey, Arkansas.

Affected districts for this proposed public charter school include DeWitt, Stuttgart, Carlisle and Dollarway. The DeWitt School Board voted to disapprove the School of Excellence Open Enrollment Charter. The applicant therefore, has requested a hearing with the State Board of Education in this matter.

Staff members from several units of the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) reviewed the application for the School of Excellence. Evaluation concerns were then mailed to the applicant for response. The applicant responded to the ADE evaluation in writing. Copies of the letter of intent, the application, documentation by the districts, the ADE evaluation and the written response by the applicant have been included for review by the Board.

The applicant is requesting to be granted an Open-Enrollment Charter from the State Board of Education.

Presenter: Dr. Mary Ann D. Brown

A-9

Hearing of Open Enrollment Charter Application and ADE Review: Lisa Academy Springdale – Springdale School District

Lisa Academy - Springdale is a proposed open-enrollment public charter school to be located within the Springdale School District in Springdale, Arkansas. The sponsoring entity on the letter of intent and application is Little Scholars of Arkansas Foundation. Grades K-12 will be served with a maximum enrollment of 500 students.

The proposed site for the school is 1395 Henri De Tonti, Tontitown, Arkansas.

Affected districts for this proposed public charter school include Springdale and Fayetteville. The Board of Education of the School District affected did not submit written findings opposing or supporting the opening of Lisa Academy Springdale. The applicant has requested a hearing with the State Board of Education in this matter.

Staff members from several units of the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) reviewed the application for the Lisa Academy Springdale. Evaluation concerns were then mailed to the applicant for response. The applicant responded to the ADE evaluation in writing. Copies of the letter of intent, the application, documentation by the districts, the ADE evaluation and the written response by the applicant have been included for review by the Board.

The applicant is requesting to be granted an Open-Enrollment Charter from the State Board of Education.

Presenter: *Dr. Mary Ann D. Brown*

A-10 Hearing of Open Enrollment Charter Application and ADE Review: Osceola Communication, Arts and Business School – Osceola School District

Osceola Communication, Arts and Business School is a proposed open-enrollment public charter school to be located within the Osceola School District in Osceola, Arkansas. The sponsoring entity on the letter of intent and application is Osceola Communications, Business and Arts, Inc. Grades K-12 will be served with a maximum enrollment of 375 students.

The proposed site for the school is 1425 Ohlendorf Road, Osceola, Arkansas.

Affected districts for this proposed public charter school include Osceola and South Mississippi. The Osceola School Board submitted a letter of support for the Osceola Communication, Arts and Business School.

Staff members from several units of the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) reviewed the application for the Osceola Communication, Arts and Business School. Evaluation concerns were then mailed to the applicant for response. The applicant responded to the ADE evaluation in writing. Copies of the letter of intent, the application, documentation by the districts, the ADE evaluation and the written response by the applicant have been included for review by the Board.

The applicant is requesting to be granted an Open-Enrollment Charter from the State Board of Education.

Presenter: *Dr. Mary Ann D. Brown*

A-11 Hearing of Open Enrollment Charter Application Appeal and ADE Review: Delta YES Connections Academy – Brinkley School District

Delta YES Connections Academy is a proposed open-enrollment public charter school to be located within the Brinkley School District. The sponsoring entity on the letter of intent and application is Delta YES, Inc. Grades K-12 will be served with a maximum enrollment of 150 students.

The proposed site for the main office for this virtual school is 131 S. New Orleans Ave., Brinkley, Arkansas.

Affected districts for this proposed public charter school include Augusta, Barton-Lexa, Clarendon, Des Arc, DeWitt, Forrest City, Hazen, Helena-West Helena, Hughes, Lee County, Marvell, McCrory, Palestine-Wheatley and Stuttgart. The Board of Education for Brinkley, Clarendon and DeWitt School Districts are opposed to the opening of Delta YES Connections Academy. The applicant has requested a hearing with the State Board of Education in this matter.

Staff members from several units of the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) reviewed the application for the Delta YES Connections Academy. Evaluation concerns were then mailed to the applicant for response. The applicant responded to the ADE evaluation in writing. Copies of the letter of intent, the application, documentation by the districts, the ADE evaluation and the written response by the applicant have been included for review by the Board.

The applicant is requesting to be granted an Open-Enrollment Charter from the State Board of Education.

Presenter: *Dr. Mary Ann D. Brown*

A-12 Hearing of Open Enrollment Charter Application Appeal and ADE Review: Northwest Arkansas Science and Math Intermediate - Fayetteville School District

Northwest Arkansas Science and Math Intermediate is a proposed open-enrollment public charter school to be located within the Fayetteville School District in Fayetteville, Arkansas. The sponsoring entity on the letter of intent is The Lyceum, Inc. and on the application is The Academy, Inc. Grades 6-8 will be served with a maximum enrollment of 225 students.

The proposed site for the school is Hwy 112 & Park West, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Affected districts for this proposed public charter school include Fayetteville, Springdale, Rogers, Bentonville, Benton County School of Arts, Huntsville, Lincoln, Siloam Springs, Decatur, Elkins, Greenland, Prairie Grove, Gentry, Gravette, West Fork and Farmington. The Fayetteville Board of Education has voted to disapprove the opening of Northwest Arkansas Science and Math Intermediate. The applicant has requested a hearing with the State Board of Education in this matter.

Staff members from several units of the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) reviewed the application for the Northwest Arkansas Science and Math Intermediate. Evaluation concerns were then mailed to the applicant for response. The applicant responded to the ADE evaluation in writing. Copies of the letter of intent, the application, documentation by the districts, the ADE evaluation and the written response by the applicant have been included for review by the Board.

The applicant is requesting to be granted an Open-Enrollment Charter from the State Board of Education.

Presenter: *Dr. Mary Ann D. Brown*

A-13 Hearing of Open Enrollment Charter Application Appeal and ADE Review: Lisa Academy North Little Rock – Pulaski County Special School District

Lisa Academy North Little Rock is a proposed open-enrollment public charter school to be located within the Pulaski County Special School District in Sherwood, Arkansas. The sponsoring entity on the letter of intent and application is Little Scholars of Arkansas. LISA Foundation Grades K-12 will be served with a maximum enrollment of 500 students.

The proposed site for the school is 5310 Landers Road, North Little Rock, Arkansas.

Affected districts for this proposed public charter school include Pulaski County Special School District, North Little Rock, and Little Rock School. The Board of Education of Pulaski County Special School District, North Little Rock School District and Little Rock School District have voted to disapprove the opening of Lisa Academy North Little Rock. The applicant has requested a hearing with the State Board of Education in this matter.

Staff members from several units of the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) reviewed the application for the Lisa Academy North Little Rock. Evaluation concerns were then mailed to the applicant for response. The applicant responded to the ADE evaluation in writing. Copies of the letter of intent, the application, documentation by the districts, the ADE evaluation and the written response by the applicant have been included for review by the Board.

The applicant is requesting to be granted an Open-Enrollment Charter from the State Board of Education.

Presenter: Dr. Mary Ann D. Brown

A-14

Hearing of Open Enrollment Charter Application Appeal and ADE Review: Covenant Keepers College Preparatory Charter School – Little Rock School District

Covenant Keepers College Preparatory Charter School is a proposed open-enrollment public charter school to be located within the Little Rock School District in Little Rock, Arkansas. The sponsoring entity on the letter of intent and application is City of Fire Community Development Inc. Grades 6-8 will be served with a maximum enrollment of 180 students.

The proposed site for the school is 7006 Geyer Springs Road, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Affected districts for this proposed public charter school include Little Rock, North Little Rock and Pulaski County. The Little Rock Board of Education has voted to disapprove the opening of Covenant Keepers College Preparatory Charter School. The applicant has requested a hearing with the State Board of Education in this matter.

Staff members from several units of the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) reviewed the application for the Covenant Keepers College Preparatory Charter School. Evaluation concerns were then mailed to the applicant for response. The applicant responded to the ADE evaluation in writing. Copies of the letter of intent, the application, documentation by the districts, the ADE evaluation and the written response by the applicant have been included for review by the Board.

The applicant is requesting to be granted an Open-Enrollment Charter from the State Board of Education.

Presenter: Dr. Mary Ann D. Brown

A-15

Hearing of Open Enrollment Charter Application Appeal and ADE Review: e-STEM Elementary Public Charter School – Little Rock School District

e-STEM Elementary Public Charter School is a proposed open-enrollment public charter school to be located within the Little Rock School District in Little Rock, Arkansas. The sponsoring entity on the letter of intent is Bridges, Inc. The sponsoring entity on the application is Bridges PCS, Inc. Grades K-4 will be served with a maximum enrollment of 360 students.

The proposed site for the school is 112 W. 3rd Street, Level 1, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Affected districts for this proposed public charter school include Little Rock, North Little Rock and Pulaski County Special

School District. The Little Rock Board of Education has voted to disapprove the opening of e-STEM Elementary Public Charter School. The applicant has requested a hearing with the State Board of Education in this matter.

Staff members from several units of the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) reviewed the application for the e-STEM Elementary Public Charter School. Evaluation concerns were then mailed to the applicant for response. The applicant responded to the ADE evaluation in writing. Copies of the letter of intent, the application, documentation by the districts, the ADE evaluation and the written response by the applicant have been included for review by the Board.

The applicant is requesting to be granted an Open-Enrollment Charter from the State Board of Education.

Presenter: *Dr. Mary Ann D. Brown*

A-16

Hearing of Open Enrollment Charter Application Appeal and ADE Review: e-STEM Middle Public Charter School – Little Rock School District

e-STEM Middle Public Charter School is a proposed open-enrollment public charter school to be located within the Little Rock School District in Little Rock, Arkansas. The sponsoring entity on the letter of intent is First Things First, Inc. The sponsoring entity on the application is First Things First PCS, Inc. Grades 5-8 will be served with a maximum enrollment of 396 students.

The proposed site for the school is 112 W. 3rd Street, Level 1, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Affected districts for this proposed public charter school include Little Rock, North Little Rock and Pulaski County. The Little Rock Board of Education has voted to disapprove the opening of e-STEM Middle Public Charter School. The applicant has requested a hearing with the State Board of Education in this matter.

Staff members from several units of the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) reviewed the application for the e-STEM Middle Public Charter School. Evaluation concerns were then mailed to the applicant for response. The applicant responded to the ADE evaluation in writing. Copies of the letter of intent, the application, documentation by the districts, the ADE evaluation and the written response by the applicant have been included for review by the Board.

The applicant is requesting to be granted an Open-Enrollment Charter from the State Board of Education.

Presenter: *Dr. Mary Ann D. Brown*

A-17

Hearing of Open Enrollment Charter Application Appeal and ADE Review: e-STEM High Public Charter School – Little Rock School District

e-STEM High Public Charter School is a proposed open-enrollment public charter school to be located within the Little Rock School District in Little Rock, Arkansas. The sponsoring entity on the letter of intent is Arkansas Achievement, Inc. The sponsoring entity on the application is Arkansas Achievement PCS, Inc. Grades 9-12 will be served with a maximum enrollment of 100 students.

The proposed site for the school is 112 W. 3rd Street, Level 1, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Affected districts for this proposed public charter school include Little Rock, North Little Rock and Pulaski County. The Little Rock Board of Education has voted to disapprove the opening of e-STEM High Public Charter School. The applicant has requested a hearing with the State Board of Education in this matter.

Staff members from several units of the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) reviewed the application for the e-STEM High Public Charter School. Evaluation concerns were then mailed to the applicant for response. The applicant responded to the ADE evaluation in writing. Copies of the letter of intent, the application, documentation by the districts, the ADE evaluation and the written response by the applicant have been included for review by the Board.

The applicant is requesting to be granted an Open-Enrollment Charter from the State Board of Education.

Presenter: *Dr. Mary Ann D. Brown*

A-18

Hearing of Open Enrollment Charter Application Appeal and ADE Review: Learning for Life Academy – Little Rock School District

Learning for Life Academy is a proposed open-enrollment public charter school to be located within the Little Rock School District in Little Rock, Arkansas. The sponsoring entity on the letter of intent and application is Education Consortia, Inc. Grades 4-8 will be served with a maximum enrollment of 150 students.

The proposed site for the school is 911 W. 19th Street, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Affected districts for this proposed public charter school include Little Rock, North Little Rock and Pulaski County. The Little Rock Board of Education has voted to disapprove the opening of Learning for Life Academy. The applicant has requested a hearing with the State Board of Education in this matter.

Staff members from several units of the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) reviewed the application for the Learning for Life Academy. Evaluation concerns were then mailed to the applicant for response. The applicant responded to the ADE evaluation in writing. Copies of the letter of intent, the application, documentation by the districts, the ADE evaluation and the written response by the applicant have been included for review by the Board.

The applicant is requesting to be granted an Open-Enrollment Charter from the State Board of Education.

Presenter: *Dr. Mary Ann D. Brown*